AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

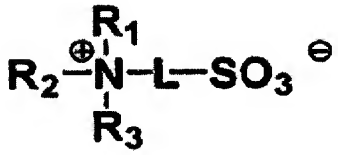
LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An ink for inkjet printing, which ~~comprising~~ comprises:

at least one of water and a water-miscible organic solvent;

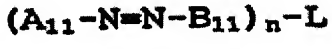
a dye; and

a compound represented by formula (A):

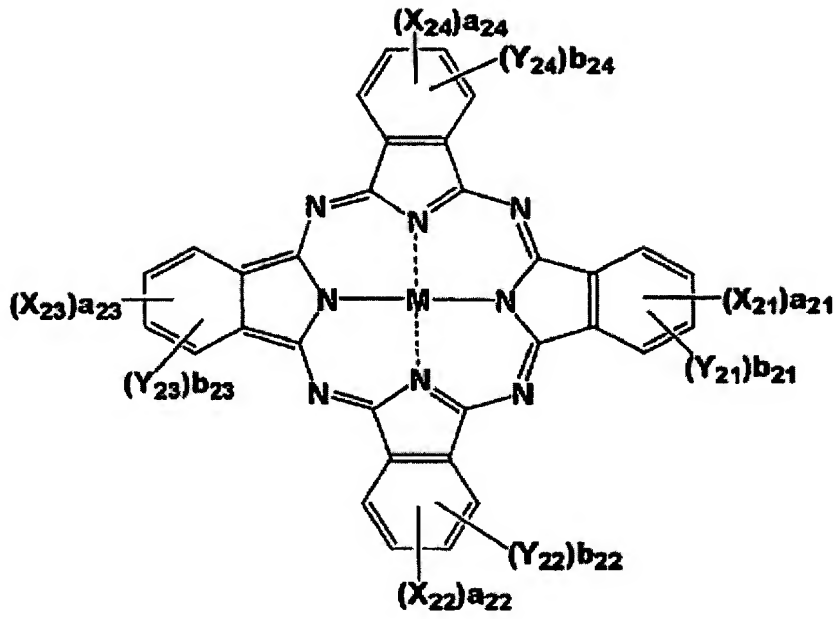


wherein R_1, R_2 and R_3 each represents an alkyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group, and at least two of R_1, R_2 and R_3 are mutually connected to form a cyclic structure; L represents a divalent connecting group; and at least one of R_1, R_2, R_3 and L is a group having 8 or more carbon atoms.

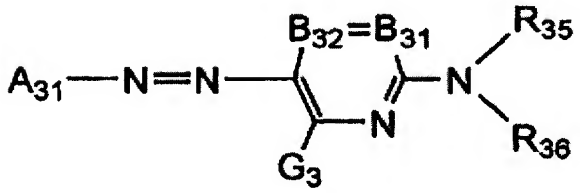
2. (original): The ink for inkjet printing according to claim 1, wherein the dye is at least one selected from the group consisting of dyes represented by formulae (1) to (4):

formula (1): 

formula (2):



formula (3):



formula (4): $A_{41}-N=N-A_{42}-N=N-A_{43}$

wherein in formula (1),

A_{11} and B_{11} each independently represents a heterocyclic group that may be substituted;

n represents 1 or 2; and

L represents a hydrogen atom, a monovalent substituent, a single bond or a divalent connecting group,

wherein when n is 1, L represents a hydrogen atom or a monovalent substituent and A_{11} and B_{11} are both monovalent heterocyclic groups; and

when n is 2, L represents a single bond or a divalent connecting group, A_{11} represents a monovalent heterocyclic group and B_{11} is a divalent heterocyclic group;

in formula (2),

X_{21}, X_{22}, X_{23} and X_{24} each independently represent -SO-Z_2, -SO_2-Z_2, -$SO_2NR_{21}R_{22}$, a sulfo group, -$CONR_{21}R_{22}$, or -$COOR_{21}$, wherein Z_2 independently represents an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aralkyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group, each of which may be further substituted; and R_{21} and R_{22} each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aralkyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group, each of which may be further substituted;

Y_{21}, Y_{22}, Y_{23} and Y_{24} each independently represents a monovalent substituent;

a_{21}, a_{22}, a_{23} and a_{24} represent the number of X_{21}'s, X_{22}'s, X_{23}'s and X_{24}'s, respectively, and each independently represents a number of 0 to 4, provided that all of a_{21}, a_{22}, a_{23} and a_{24} are not 0 at the same time, wherein when any of a_{21}, a_{22}, a_{23} and a_{24} is 2 or more, a plurality of X_{21}'s, X_{22}'s, X_{23}'s and X_{24}'s is mutually the same or different;

b_{21}, b_{22}, b_{23} and b_{24} represent the number of Y_{21}'s, Y_{22}'s, Y_{23}'s and Y_{24}'s, respectively, and each independently repersents a number of 0 to 4, wherein when any of b_{21}, b_{22}, b_{23} and b_{24} is 2 or more, a plurality of Y_{21}'s, Y_{22}'s, Y_{23}'s and Y_{24}'s is mutually the same or different; and

M represents a hydrogen atom, a metal atom, a metal oxide, a metal hydroxide or a metal halide;

in formula (3),

A_{31} represents a 5-membered heterocyclic ring;

B_{31} and B_{32} each represents =CR_{31}- or -CR_{32}=, or either one of B_{31} and B_{32} represents a nitrogen atom while the other one represents =CR_{31}- or -CR_{32}=;

R_{35} and R_{36} each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an aliphatic group, an aromatic group, a heterocyclic group, an acyl group, an alkoxycarbonyl group, an aryloxycarbonyl group, a carbamoyl group, an alkylsulfonyl group, an arylsulfonyl group, or a sulfamoyl group, each of which may further have a substituent;

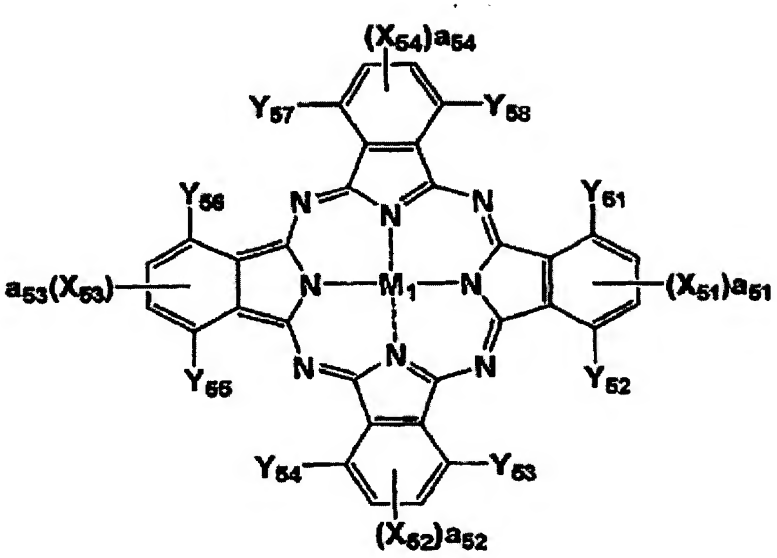
G_3, R_{31} and R_{32} each independently represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an aliphatic group, an aromatic group, a heterocyclic group, a cyano group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, an alkoxycarbonyl group, an aryloxycarbonyl group, a heterocyclic oxycarbonyl group, an acyl group, a hydroxy group, an alkoxy group, an aryloxy group, a heterocyclic oxy group, a silyloxy group, an acyloxy group, a carbamoyloxy group, an alkoxycarbonyloxy group, an aryloxycarbonyloxy group, an amino group, an arylamino group, a heterocyclic amino group, an acylamino group, an ureido group, a sulfamoylamino group, an alkoxycarbonylamino group, an aryloxycarbonylamino group, an alkylsulfonylamino group, an arylsulfonylamino group, a heterocyclic sulfonylamino group, a nitro group, an alkylthio group, an arylthio group, an alkylsulfonyl group, an arylsulfonyl group, a heterocyclic sulfonyl group, an alkylsulfinyl group, an aryl sulfinyl group, a heterocyclic sulfinyl group, a sulfamoyl group, a sulfo group or a heterocyclic thio group, each of which may be further substituted; and

R_{31} and R_{35}, or R_{35} and R_{36} may be bonded to form a 5- or 6-membered ring; and

in formula (4),

A_{41}, A_{42} and A_{43} each independently represents an aromatic group or a heterocyclic group, each of which may be further substituted; A_{41} and A_{43} are monovalent groups, while A_{42} is a divalent group.

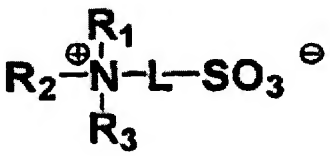
3. (original): The ink for inkjet printing according to claim 2, wherein the dye represented by formula (2) is a dye represented by formula (5):



wherein X_{51}, X_{52}, X_{53}, X_{54}, and M_1 have the same meaning as X_{21}, X_{22}, X_{23}, X_{24}, and M in formula (2), respectively; Y_{51} and Y_{52} have the same meaning as Y_{21} in formula (2); Y_{53} and Y_{54} have the same meaning as Y_{22} in formula (2); Y_{55} and Y_{56} have the same meaning as Y_{23} in formula (2); Y_{57} and Y_{58} have the same meaning as Y_{24} in formula (2); and a_{51}, a_{52}, a_{53} and a_{54} each independently represents an integer 1 or 2.

4. (original): An ink set for inkjet printing, which comprises an ink according to any one of claims 1 to 3.

5. (withdrawn): An inkjet recording material, which comprises: a substrate; and an ink receptive layer on the substrate, wherein the ink receptive layer includes a compound represented by formula (A):



wherein R_1, R_2 and R_3 each represents an alkyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group, and at least two of R_1, R_2 and R_3 are mutually connected to form a cyclic structure; L represents a divalent connecting group; and at least one of R_1, R_2, R_3 and L is a group having 8 or more carbon atoms.

6. (withdrawn): The inkjet recording material according to claim 5, wherein the ink receptive layer further contains a water-soluble resin.

7. (withdrawn): The inkjet recording material according to claim 6, wherein the water-soluble resin is at least one selected from the group consisting of a polyvinyl alcohol resin, a cellulose resin, a resin including an ether bond, a resin including a carbamoyl group, a resin including a carboxyl group, and a gelatin.

8. (withdrawn): The inkjet recording material according to claim 6 or 7, wherein the ink receptive layer includes a crosslinking agent capable of crosslinking the water-soluble resin.

9. (withdrawn-currently amended): The inkjet recording material according to ~~any one of claims 5 to 8~~ claim 5, wherein the ink receptive layer further includes a fine particle.

10. (withdrawn): The inkjet recording material according to claim 9, wherein the fine particle is at least one selected from the group consisting of a fine silica particle, a colloidal silica, a fine alumina particle and a pseudo-boehmite.

11. (withdrawn-currently amended): The inkjet recording material according to ~~any one of claims 5 to 10~~ claim 5, wherein the ink receptive layer further includes a mordant agent.

12. (withdrawn-currently amended): The inkjet recording material according to ~~any one of claims 5 to 11~~ claim 5, wherein the ink receptive layer is a cured layer formed by: applying a first solution on a substrate to form a coating layer, the first solution containing a fine particle, a water-soluble resin, and a crosslinking agent; and applying a second solution on the coating

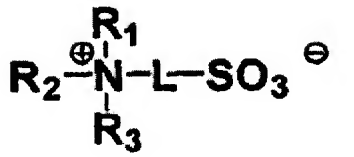
layer, the second solution having a pH of 8 or more, so that the coating layer is cured by a crosslinking reaction to form the cured layer, wherein the applying of the second solution is performed one of: (1) at the same time as the applying of the first solution; and (2) in the course of drying the coating layer and before the coating layer starts to show a falling drying rate.

13. (withdrawn): An inkjet recording method, which comprises discharging a droplet of an ink according to any one of claims 1 to 3 on an inkjet recording material, so as to form an image or a character.

14. (withdrawn-currently amended): An inkjet recording method, which comprises discharging a droplet of an ink on an inkjet recording material according to ~~any one of claims 5 to 12~~ claim 5, so as to form an image or a character.

15. (withdrawn): An inkjet recording method according to claim 14, wherein at least one ink contains a betaine compound.

16. (withdrawn-currently amended): The inkjet recording method according to claim 15, wherein the betaine compound is a compound represented by formula (A): ~~according to claim 5~~



wherein R_1, R_2 and R_3 each represents an alkyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group, and at least two of R_1, R_2 and R_3 are mutually connected to form a cyclic structure; L represents a divalent connecting group; and at least one of R_1, R_2, R_3 and L is a group having 8 or more carbon atoms.

17. (withdrawn-currently amended): The inkjet recording method according to claim 15, wherein at least one ink is an ink according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1.

18. (withdrawn): A method for producing an inkjet recording material, which comprises: applying a first solution on a substrate to form a coating layer, the first solution containing a fine particle, a water-soluble resin, and a crosslinking agent; and applying a second solution on the coating layer, the second solution having a pH of 8 or more, so that the coating layer is cured by a crosslinking reaction to form a ink receptive layer, wherein the applying of the second solution is performed one of: (1) at the same time as the applying of the first solution; and (2) in the course of drying the coating layer and before the coating layer starts to show a falling drying rate.